

### TECHNICAL TALK

Picture yourself walking in a museum full of treasures. It is pitch dark. You can't see a thing, but you know the rooms are full of rich and beautiful things. There are golden necklaces from Egypt. Hanging on the walls are paintings made by hundreds of the greatest artists who ever lived. There are tiny statues carved two thousand years ago by Romans. But it is so dark you can't see anything.

Turn on the lights! Being in a dark museum is just about like starting a new book. Great writers are able to paint pictures for us with words. They make "images" by telling us what they see, or hear, or taste, or feel in their own mind's eye. Good readers are able to follow the author's images or pictures and see them in their own minds.

### TRY IT

Here is a description of a place. It has visual images and some sound pictures, too. Can you picture the surroundings and guess where you are?

### SWALLOWED

The click-click-clickety-click went on as it had for hours. The only difference was the sudden darkness. I reached up and touched the window by my shoulder to make sure it was still there. Just seconds ago I could look out on the green and gold farm flashing by in the sun. "Swallowed by a dragon," I thought. The whole car—seats, people, me—gulped down in one bite. We were sliding down the inside of the dragon's throat. Would we ever get out again? Then suddenly light flashed through the window once more. We were through the ....

Describe what has happened: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## REVIEW

People could have different answers. The author was thinking about riding a fast train through a tunnel. The clicking sound, the farms flashing by, the car, seats and people—they all add up to high-speed travel. The sudden darkness comes when the train enters a tunnel.

Try another experiment. This time read the paragraphs below. For each sentence that begins with a circled letter, decide what kind of image the author is giving. Write the letter next to the image below.



## FEAST

- Ⓐ She sat at the table alone listening to the others eat. The noise of the silverware against dishes was almost like bells. She couldn't hear what people were saying, but their voices were happy. Ⓑ She could read their happiness in the buzz of talk. It was like bees almost. Bees that had plenty of honey.
- Ⓒ The whole restaurant was crowded with people. The colors of their clothes made the room look like a patchwork quilt.
- Ⓓ Each table had a candle in one of those little glass holders. The candles made a tiny golden halo on each table where the light danced slowly on the tablecloth.
- Ⓔ But the smells captured her attention most. They took her back to her mother's kitchen. She tasted in her memory a hundred dinners she had eaten—turkeys at Thanksgiving, duck and steak and salads with savory dressings. They all came back as she sniffed the beautiful steam that came through the kitchen door. The smells were a feast themselves.

1. Visual images \_\_\_\_\_

2. Sound images \_\_\_\_\_

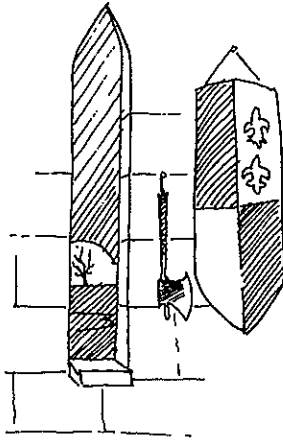
3. Smell images \_\_\_\_\_

4. Where does this event happen?    (a) in a friend's home    (b) in a restaurant    (c) at a Thanksgiving feast

## WARRIOR

### UNIT 6 Lesson 3 Critical Reading

Read this description. Then answer the questions about it. Pay special attention to the images the author uses.



The sky was just beginning to lighten. At first, he could see only the window outlined against the sky. Then the sky was tinted by the rising sun. The stars disappeared, and he could see the walls of his room. Though he didn't want to get up, he swung his legs out of bed and placed his feet on the cold stone floor. Already he could smell the cooking below in the big dining halls of the castle. The cooks were making a big breakfast to carry them through the battle. He walked over to the bearskin rug and dressed quickly, hoping to warm up. He kept his feet on the rug as long as he could.

He whistled loudly and the sound echoed from the walls and down the halls. His squire came into the room from his cot outside the door. Together they began strapping on the lightest pieces of his armor. The sky was bright enough now that they could just see to fasten the buckles. Today would tell who would sleep here tomorrow.

1. The author is telling about a man getting ready for (a) breakfast (b) battle (c) bed
2. This event happens (a) early in the morning (b) in a castle (c) before a battle is fought (d) all of the above
3. The author uses many images to set the scene. Which ones do you find? (a) sense of touch (b) sight (c) sound (d) smell (e) taste

### HOW DID YOU DO?

